UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/215
9 March 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 MARCH 1998 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SIERRA LEONE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

As you may be already aware, the illegal military junta in Sierra Leone was ousted by forces of the Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) on 12 February 1998. Following this event, the legally and democratically elected Head of State, Alhaji Ahmad Tejan-Kabba, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone will be returning to his country tomorrow, 10 March 1998.

In consequence of the above, I have been instructed by the President, on behalf of the Government of Sierra Leone, to request that a meeting of the Security Council be convened as a matter of urgency to consider the lifting of the sanctions imposed on the importation of petroleum and petroleum products into the country, in paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1132 (1997) of 8 October 1997.

To allow the Government machinery to function properly and smoothly, and, in particular, to ease the impact of the absence of petroleum and petroleum products in the market on the prices of goods and the free movement of people, it is absolutely necessary that the sanction be lifted as soon as possible.

I would therefore be most grateful if the matter would be treated with the urgency it deserves.

(Signed) Fode M. DABOR
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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